Snapshots and Thoughtshots
Snapshots
SNAPSHOT
a description of a detail that uses one or more of the five senses—should be easy for the reader to picture

FIVE SENSES—smell, touch, hearing, sight, taste
Show, Don’t Tell...

- Maybe you’ve heard this good advice from teacher.
- Writing gets better the more we can zoom in on specific concrete details to make powerful feelings come alive.
• Don’t write about how bad your day was at school.

• Instead, describe the inky pen stain on your pants, the scab forming on your grass-stained knee, the smashed peanut butter sandwich which was supposed to be your lunch, the crumpled chemistry test in your back pack.

• Our symbol for a snapshot will be this: